

## **2003 Hall of Fame Inductee**

### **Dr. Gerald R. Matteson**

Gerald Matteson was born in Waukesha County with a twin brother in a family of five children. He grew up on a small dairy farm and graduated from Hartland High School in 1954. He attended Platteville State University from 1954-1958, where he received his Bachelor of Science Degree in agricultural education. He attended the UW-Madison where he received his Masters degree in agricultural education and Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction. He taught agriculture at Pulaski High School from 1961 to 1964 and has been at the UW-River Falls since 1976, serving as Professor in the Ag Ed Department and also serving as Assistant Dean of the College of Agriculture from 1976-1995.

During his tenure at UW-River Falls, Dr. Matteson served as the Director of the Internship Program at the College of Agriculture. He also provided academic counseling for students and developed a recruitment and retention program. He served as co-advisor of two student organizations, the Agricultural Education Society and Alpha Tau Alpha, which he helped initiate and develop. Both organizations are now recognized nationally.

Dr. Matteson has developed numerous courses over the past 30 years and has supervised over 650 student interns. He is the advisor of the Parliamentary Procedure workshops which involve 45-50 UW-River Falls students. He consults frequently with school board members, school administrators, teachers and business persons regarding conduct of meetings and parliamentary procedure. In 1999 he became a nationally registered parliamentarian.

Dr. Matteson has received numerous awards over the years including the Honorary State and American FFA Degrees and the National Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association Outstanding Service Award. He was named the UW-River Falls Distinguished Teacher in 1979 and received The UW River Falls College of Agriculture Outstanding Teacher Award in 1994. Dr. Matteson has also had an impressive military career, serving 30 years and rising to the rank of Brigadier General.